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IN 28 OCT 57

URBAN DISTRICT OF MARKET HARBOROUGH

ANNUAL REPORT

- of the -

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1956.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

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Medical Officer of Health

VITAL STATISTICS

Area in acres ..... 4,771.

Rateable Value at April 1st. 1956. ..... £132,470.

Sum represented by a penny rate ..... £545.2.8.

Number of occupied Houses 3,596

Number of Council Houses 767

Population (mid 1956) 10,470

BIRTHS.

Live births : Legitimate

Male	75
Female	73
Total	148

Illegitimate

Male	3
Female	1
Total	4

All live births

Male	78
Female	74
Total	152

Still births :

Male	3
Female	2
Total	5

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population 14.5

DEATHS.

Deaths; all causes

Male	56
Female	71
Total	127

Deaths from puerperal causes ..... NIL

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age

Male	3
Female	NIL
Total	3

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age

Male	3
Female	NIL
Total	3

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population 12.1

Causes of Death:

Registrar General's Classification:		1956		
		Male	Female	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, Respiratory - -	1	-	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other - - -	-	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease - - - -	-	-	-
4.	Diptheria - - - - -	-	-	-
5.	Whooping cough - - - -	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections - -	-	-	-
7.	Acute poliomelitis - - - -	-	-	-
8.	Measles - - - - - -	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases.	-	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach - -	3	-	3
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	-	1
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast - -	-	5	5
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus - -	-	1	1
14.	Malignant neoplasms, lymphatic & other	8	5	13
15.	Leukamia, aleukaemia - - -	1	1	2
16.	Diabetes - - - - - -	-	1	1
17.	Vascular lesions of the nervous system - - - - - -	4	10	14
18.	Coronary disease, angina - -	3	9	12
19.	Hypertension with heart disease -	1	1	2
20.	Other heart disease - - -	6	9	15
21.	Other circulatory disease - -	3	6	9
22.	Influenza - - - - -	-	-	-
23.	Pneumonia - - - - -	5	1	6
24.	Bronchitis - - - - -	3	5	8
25.	Other diseases of the respiratory system - - - - - -	1	-	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum - -	-	-	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis - - -	-	3	3
29.	Hyperplasia of the prostate - -	-	-	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion -	-	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations - -	1	-	1
32.	Other defined & ill-defined diseases	10	10	20
33.	Motor vehicle accidents - - -	-	-	-
34.	All other accidents - - -	4	4	8
35.	Suicide - - - - - -	1	-	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war -	-	-	-
	Total deaths, all causes -	56	71	127

CONTROL AND PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Immunisation

During 1956 - 111 children under the age of five years received their primary immunisation against diphtheria, whilst a further 93 children of school age received treatment to maintain their immunity.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis was introduced during 1956 and offered to selected groups of children between the ages of two and nine years.

61 children were vaccinated, representing 4.0% of those eligible.

B C G vaccination was again offered to children of school leaving age. 30 boys and 20 girls accepted it.

Tuberculosis

There was one death from pulmonary tuberculosis during the year.

Three new cases of pulmonary and two of non pulmonary tuberculosis were notified.

Cases residing in the District at the close of the year were distributed as follows :-

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Pulmonary tuberculosis	23	16	39
Non-pulmonary tuberculosis	5	6	11
Totals	28	22	50

Dysentery

47 cases of dysentery were notified during the summer months. These were closely investigated and a further 20 infected persons found.

Those affected were mainly children under five and children of infant school age. The epidemic was confined to one infant school and a policy of rigid exclusion of cases and contacts brought the outbreak to a rapid conclusion.

The operation involved the public health inspectors in the collection of 389 specimens of faeces from cases and contacts. Of these 87 were shown to be infected. A few children proved resistant to treatment and it was fortunate that the long summer vacation came at the right time to enable prolonged exclusion from school to be avoided.

Other infectious disease

The following cases were notified :-

Whooping cough	11
Measles	3
Scarlet fever	5
Puerperal pyrexia	2

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

For the preparation of the following information I am indebted to Mr. Basil S. Pike, Chief Public Health Inspector.

Water Supply

The new central filtration and treatment works are completed and tests of purity have been carried out. Fourteen serial samples showed no coliform organisms in 100 ml. Four samples taken after heavy rainfall showed from seven to twenty coliforms present in 100 ml with faecal coliforms in two samples.

Nine samples of treated water were examined. 8 were entirely satisfactory one showed 1 coliform per 100 ml.

The relation between dental caries and low fluoride content of waters was discussed by the Council after a report on the matter had been submitted. Analyses of water from our many sources of supply showed fluoride contents varying from 0.24 parts per million to 0.036 parts per million. The higher level being from the waters constituting our main supplies.

The present supply to dwelling-houses in the district is as follows :-

	Houses	Population
Number supplied from wells	14	42
Number supplied from public water mains:		
(a) Direct to the houses	3,465	10,103
(b) By means of standpipes	130	325

Sewage Disposal

A consulting engineer has been engaged to survey the whole problem of sewage disposal. His preliminary report has been received and preparation of plans for submission to the Ministry is proceeding.

The total number of water closets in the area is 5,206 with 14 premises served by pails. 6 cesspools exist.

Refuse Collection

Houses and other premises are supplied with dustbins for the storage of domestic refuse. Collection is at weekly intervals and disposal by controlled tipping.

Trade refuse is collected separately and charged at the rate of 15/- per bin per year for a weekly service. 116 premises are concerned.

The destructor and salvage depot deal with trade wastes.

Inspection of the Area

Complaints received	264
Premises involved	763
Nuisances or defects discovered	1,022
Total inspections made	3,342

Nature of Inspections	Number of Inspections
Animal Keeping	10
Bakehouses	8
Dairies	16
Drainage Works	75
Dwelling-houses (all purposes)	2,004
Food Premises	199
Offensive Trades	6
Refuse Collection and Disposal	115
Rodent Control	22
Schools	5
Shops	23
Slaughter-Houses and Meat Inspection	380
Smoke Observations	48
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	50
Verminous and Dirty Premises	184
Water Supplies	7
Workshops, outworkers, etc.	70
Other Inspections	120

Notices

PRELIMINARY	HOUSING	PUBLIC HEALTH
Outstanding on 1st January	33	57
Issued during year	143	324
Complied with during year	147	331
Statutory action necessary	-	-
Outstanding 31st December	29	50

STATUTORY	HOUSING	PUBLIC HEALTH
Outstanding on 1st January	11	-
Issued during year	-	-
Complied with during year	7	-
Outstanding 31st December	4	-

Shops Act, 1950

23 visits were made in the course of which five defects affecting sanitary accommodation and one case of defective ventilation were discovered. All of these defects were remedied.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

Licences renewed	2
Visits to premises	4
Contraventions rectified	1

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

Number of premises registered for upholstering, etc.	1

No contraventions were discovered.

Special Classes of Premises and Occupations subject to Control.

Written Consent to establishment of trade of Rag and Bone Dealer renewed	1
Written Consent to establishment of trade of Fat Extractor, Fat Melter and Glue Maker in operation	1

These premises were inspected on six occasions. There were no matters necessitating attention.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The Rodent Officer, as other duties permitted, has proceeded with the routine inspection of the District.

44 manholes of the sewerage system were again testbaited and no takes reported.

Infestations dealt with :-

(1) At Council properties	19
(2) At private dwellings (Free of charge)	101
(3) At business premises (occupiers charged)	44
(4) At agricultural premises (occupiers charged)	5

Disinfestation.

No infestations were discovered during 1956.

Swimming Baths.

The indoor swimming pool is owned by the Council. 3 inspections were made during the year. One sample of water taken showed no coliform organisms in 100 ml..

Camping Sites and Moveable Dwellings.

Number of camping sites for which licences have been issued	1
Number of licences issued for moveable dwellings under Section 269, Public Health Act, 1936	2

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.

Factories concerned in the operation of the Acts	121
Other premises	8
Inspections made	68
Contraventions found	3
Contraventions remedied	3
Number of outworkers	38

THE INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

These regulations became operative during the year and traders engaged in food handling have been visited and provided with an abstract of the Regulations and given advice on the implementation of requirements.

The Council as a market owner is such a trader and whilst conditions generally are good, and additional washing facilities with constant hot water have been provided, we feel that in order to comply with Regulation 8 (a) screens must be installed to protect open food.

Premises inspected	62
Inspections made	156
Informal notices served	30
Informal notices complied with	24

Classification of premises subject to the Regulations :-

Bakehouses	7
Meat shops	13
Cafes, bars and hotels	14
Clubs	15
Licensed victuallers (not included above)	20
Canteens (including factories and schools)	23
Fishmongers (including fried fish)	4
Greengrocers	10
Grocers	31
Ice Cream Vendors	5
Market stalls	24
Sweets and confectionery	17
Institutions (including hospitals and homes)	28
Manufacturers and others	5
Total	216

Ice Cream

34 premises are registered for the sale of ice cream. No sampling was carried out.

Milk : Dairies and Distributors

Dairies Registered	3
Distributors Registered	3
Inspections made	16
Contraventions found	NIL

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949; and Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Licences issued :-	DEALERS
Pasteurised	3
Sterilised	1
Tuberculin Tested	4

No supplementary licences were issued.

Milk Sampling.

All milk sold in the area must now be designated. Sampling for the detection of infection with living tubercle bacilli or Brucella abortus was continued however. 8 samples were taken, all proving satisfactory.

23 further samples were taken for bacteriological examination. All were satisfactory.

Meat and Other Foods.

The Council owns the abattoir and provides the facilities for a public slaughterhouse.

9,061 animals were slaughtered therein during 1956. All of these were examined at the time of slaughter, 379 visits being made for this purpose.

The findings of examination are shown in the following table :-

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1,264	17	61	6,266	1,453
Number inspected	1,264	17	61	6,266	1,453
All Diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcases condemned	1	2	6	42	6
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	353	6	-	100	25
Percentage of number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis	28.0	47.0	9.84	2.27	2.13
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned	1	-	1	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	89	2	-	-	23
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	7.12	11.76	1.64	-	1.58

One bullock was found to be suffering from cysticercosis. The carcase was submitted to refrigeration.

Total weight of meat condemned: 7 tons 1 cwt. 2 qrs. 10 lbs.

Meat Stalls.

No. of Inspections 22

Meat Shops, Meat Stores, etc.

No. of Inspections 17

Places where food (other than meat) is kept
or prepared for sale.

No. of Inspections 170

Foodstuffs (other than meat) condemned ..... 1,746½ lbs.

HOUSING

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts). 253

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 633

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under (sub-head) (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932. 23

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 51

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. 4

CLEARANCE AREAS (Housing Act, 1936 and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954).

No clearance areas were defined.

HOUSES NOT INCLUDED IN CLEARANCE AREAS.

Houses demolished or closed in the period.

	Number of Houses	Persons displaced.
Housing Act, 1936.		
Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Section 11)	6	10

REPAIRS in the period.

	Number of Houses
Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the Local Authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts.	60

HOUSING ACT, 1936 - PART IV - OVERCROWDING.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year 7

(2) Number of families dwelling therein 12

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein 58

(b) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year 3

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases 22

HOUSING ACT, 1949

(a) Number of applications for improvement grants 28

(b) Number of applications approved 27

(c) Number of applications refused 1

New Houses.

Houses completed during the year :-

(a) By Local Authority	NIL
(b) By Private enterprise	100

Houses under construction at the close of the year :-

(a) By Local Authority	30
(b) By Private enterprise	53

TOTAL No. of Post War Houses completed by :-

(a) Local Authority	447
(b) Private enterprise	247

Total Number of applicants for Council houses at end of year	258
Number of applications received during the year	102
Number of Council Houses in the district prior to 1939	319